

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

## SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 160

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state offices and administration.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

SECTION 1. IC 4-4-9.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW CHAPTER** TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]:

### **Chapter 9.5. Indiana Rural Development Council**

**Sec. 1.** As used in this chapter, "council" refers to the Indiana Rural Development Council established by the 1993 memorandum of understanding between Indiana and the United States Department of Agriculture.

**Sec. 2.** With the approval of the governing board of the council, the council shall do the following:

(1) Develop a rural economic development strategy for Indiana to assist Indiana's rural residents in improving their quality of life and to help promote successful and sustainable rural communities. The rural economic development strategy must include goals and recommendations concerning the following issues:

- (A) Job creation and retention.
- (B) Infrastructure, including water, wastewater, and storm water infrastructure needs.
- (C) Housing.
- (D) Workforce training.
- (E) Health care.



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- (F) Local planning.
  - (G) Land use.
  - (H) Assistance to regional rural development groups.
  - (I) Other rural development issues, as determined by the council.
- (2) Beginning in 2002, submit before October 1 of each year an annual report to the legislative council. A report submitted under this section is intended to do the following:
- (A) Inform the general assembly of the council's work during the period covered by the report.
  - (B) Assist the general assembly in monitoring issues affecting rural communities and responding to the needs of rural residents.
- (3) Testify concerning rural development issues before any standing committee or study committee established by the general assembly, as requested by the legislative council.

Sec. 3. The council may contract with any regional rural development group for assistance in developing the rural economic development strategy required under this chapter.

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President of the Senate

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President Pro Tempore

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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Governor of the State of Indiana

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